

## COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender identities, socioeconomic levels, religions, backgrounds, beliefs, and abilities, but often has a disproportionate effect on communities and groups impacted by inequity; and

WHEREAS, over 20,800 calls are received by domestic violence crisis lines daily nationwide; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime. 15.5 million children witness domestic violence each year. Domestic violence can manifest as physical, verbal, sexual, emotional, spiritual, and financial abuse, and all types of abuse are oppressive and can cause lifelong harm; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence incidents are some of the most complex and dangerous incidents that law enforcement respond to in our community, putting their lives at risk every day in the belief that a coordinated community response is necessary to support survivors, hold offenders accountable, and work toward ending the cycle of violence; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County joins others across the State of Oregon and throughout the United States in supporting domestic violence survivors and the organizations that serve them, holding offenders accountable, and promoting healthy relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners of Columbia County, Oregon, invite our community to take a pledge to help end domestic violence and build resilience in our county.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, Columbia County, Oregon, that October 2025 is hereby proclaimed as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon, this 15 day of October 2025

OFFICIAL SEASON OF THE SEASON

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

Зу:

Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

Sy: Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: Dan Da